7: Shklovsky -- 47 T-3 (1891-92) 1916 Yakut
116, 618, 651, 565, 558, 735

"Very interesting is the clan's system of the distribution of taxation among its members. At the general assembly the clan is divided into three groups. The first group is composed of the poorest Yakuts, illegitimate children, and transported settlers, who are billeted upon the clan. This group does not bear any responsibility, and is called Itimnit (the paupers' group).

The members of the second group do not pay anything, but are obliged to maintain a certain number of paupers. The last group has also to maintain a certain number of paupers, and, in addition, to pay money, sometimes at so high a rate that it amounts to fifty roubles per head per annum. By means of this arrangement the Yakuts (in the two northern districts of the Yakutsk region) have no paupers; but, in truth, the condition of the Itimnit is very pitiable, for, except the transported settlers, all are the slaves of the chief. The members of the clan had unlimited power over their kinsmen, and in fact the power still remains, for they can keep the men as unpaid labourers, and even sell the young girls to any who want them."

493 case this is necessary during the journey. The stems of these legs are left thicker for greater strength at those points where they pass the opening for the end of the towrope. The upper ends of these legs are stuck into special openings in the projecting cornice of the bayka. The bayka is made from the boards of a larch tree which has a bend at the root in the shape of a tube, as a result of which there is a high bend in the back part to which is fastened the narrow board called tyntyr--which forms the "heel" or "tundra"--by means of an insertion with a strap or by using wooden nails. The same kind of board is fastened on in the front, as a result of which the sled is accordingly called "covered." The runners are thin at their front part, which is bent; the back part, which is straight, gradually grows thicker, forming a beam with four smoothed angles, and the back ends of the runners are pointed. The thin front parts of the runners have thick places [195] [Figures 11, 12, and 13] with openings vertically--through which is passed the rope which fastens the outboard pulleys on--and horizontally--for the crosspiece, called tuoraj, which connects both runners in the front; and since there are two or three crosspieces on the fancy sleds, there are [196] accordingly as many openings in the runners. A board flooring, tied onto the frame with straps or nailed to the towropes of the supporting legs with wooden nails, forms the seat (olok).

The open sled, or iraka, a light male sled, is distinguished from the preceding type of sled by its shorter legs, two to six in number, and it does not have the "tundra," for which reason it is called open--ahagas s'rga; the bayka is made of two straight laths, and the legs are slanted only to a slight degree. In the other details of its construction this type of sled is no different from the "covered" sled.

A particular type of iraka with two legs is called sobgooldo by the Tungus. The legs do not slant but are exactly vertical. The sobgooldo are for riding, but especially for transporting boats, and [735] have no board flooring [Fig. 15]. The riding sobgooldo are not used [538] very often; usually poor people ride on them, and a sarcastic attitude toward them is found among the Dolgan. In the epos it is predominantly representatives of the evil spirits or heroes who are being ridiculed, who ride on a sobgooldo.

Both of the above-mentioned types of sleds keep their length constant when the number of legs on them is increased. Therefore, when the number of legs is increased, the distance between adjacent legs is decreased. The slant of the legs is a result of the fact that